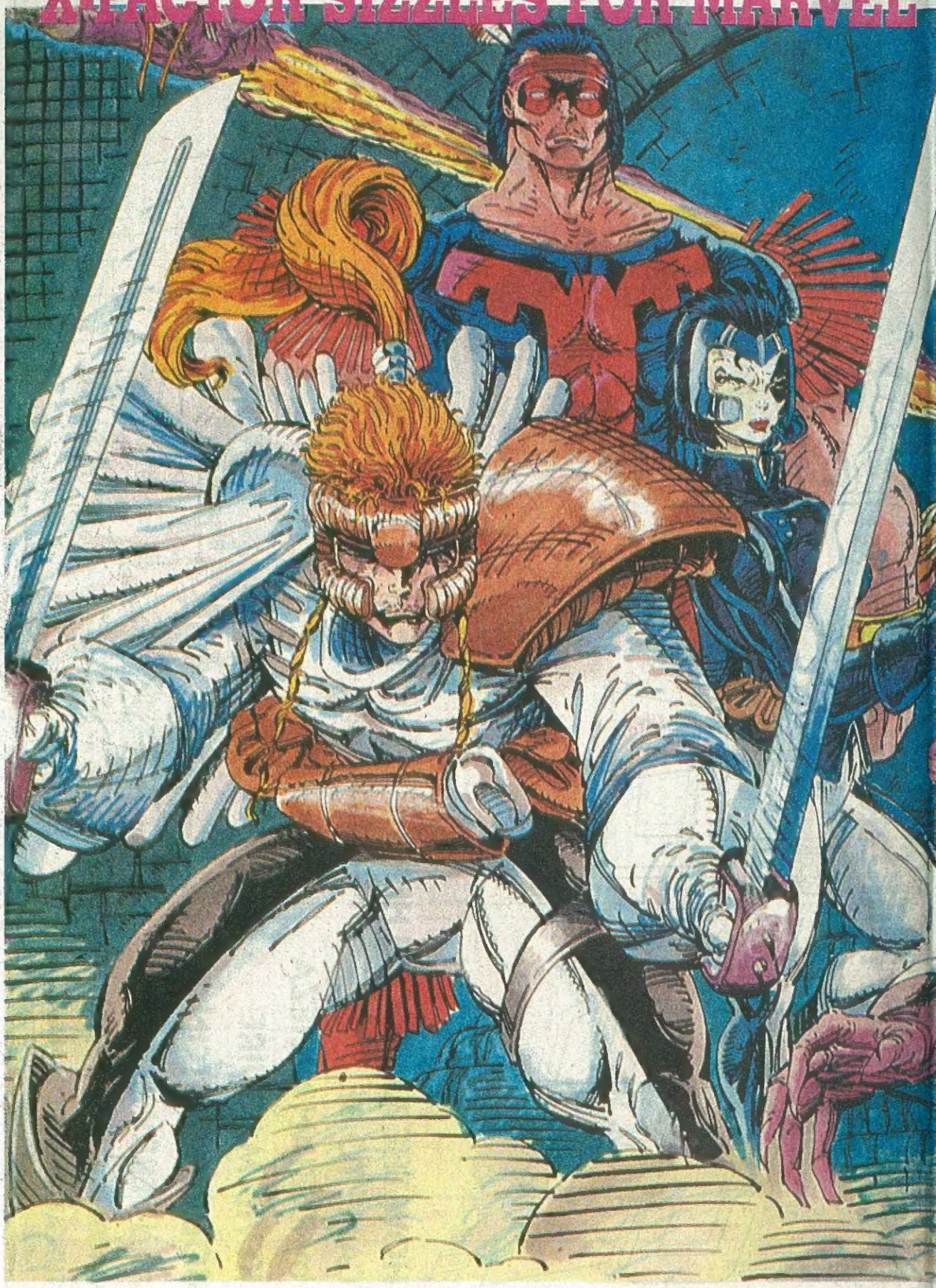
COMIC SHOP NEWS 1991

SUMMER PREVIEW!

X-FACTOR SIZZLES FOR MARVEL



COMIC SHOP NEWS 1991

SUMMER PREVIEW!

CSN 1991 SUMMER PREVIEW

Adventure Comics

Jeremiah: A Fistful of Sand presents another *Jeremiah* adventure in the extremely affordable two-issue miniseries format. A Fistful of Sand is another complex post-apocalyptic adventure by Hermann, the foreign artist whose work has been praised by some of the most respected American and British creators, including Dave Gibbons. *(June, $2.50@)* It will be followed in July by a third Jeremiah limited series, *Jeremiah: The Heirs*. *(July, $2.50)*, and a month later by *Jeremiah: Eyes Like Burning Coals*. *(August, $2.50)*

Steve Moncuse, creator of *Fish Police*, takes fans on an expedition to *Livingstone Mountain* beginning in July. This new fantasy series follows the adventures of Scat and his dragon pal Rax, who hire themselves out as monster exterminators. Arthur Adams contributes a behind-the-scenes look at the comic book industry (entitled "How to Draw Comics the Art Adams Way!") in each issue. *(July-August, $2.50)*

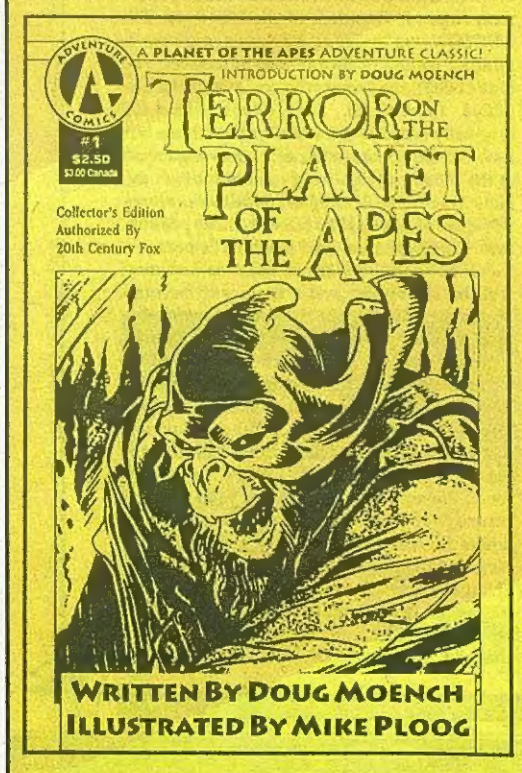
A classic Golden Age heroine makes her return in *Miss Fury #1*, courtesy of *Cat & Mouse*'s Roland Mann and Mitch Byrd. It's not the Golden Age heroine who dons the costume again, however, but her granddaughter! But it doesn't matter who's inside the costume--once she dons it, there's fast and furious action. *(August, $2.50)*

J.M. Barrie's quintessential childhood hero, Peter Pan, is back in action in *Peter Pan: Return to Never-Never Land*, a new full-color story by Ron Fortier and Gary Kato. Peter drafts two brothers to accompany him to Never-Never Land to help battle Captain Hook--but before the boys can join the fray, they're captured by Tiger Lily and sentenced to death, and only Tinker Bell can save them. *(July-August, $2.50)*

Long before Adventure Comics had the rights to *Planet of the Apes*, Marvel published its own run of Planet of the Apes comics adventures--and now, Adventure is bringing some of the best of that material back as a part of their line. *Terror on the Planet of the Apes* presents what is arguably the best of Marvel's Apes work: a long storyline written by Doug Moench and illustrated by Mike Ploog. This material was originally designed for black and white publication, so it's perfectly suited for Adventure's *Planet of the Apes* line. *(June-September, $2.50@)*

Retief's diplomatic exploits continue in *Retief: The Garbage Invasion*, an all-new miniseries by Bruce Balfour and Darren Goodheart. Retief once again confronts the Groaci--this time, they're turning a galactic planet park into a garbage heap...and if that isn't enough, Retief also has to deal with the All Conqueror of Foes Cheese... *(August, $2.50)*

Rocket Ranger, the Cinemaware videogame is ready for comic book launch this summer (gee, could the Rocketeer timing be more than coincidental?...), courtesy of Mann and Khato. Rocket Ranger is a 1940's-based adventure about a brilliant scientist and his lovely daughter, both imperiled by evil Nazis--and the rocket-powered hero who can rescue them. *(August, $2.95)*



Aircel

Straight out of the pages of *The Trouble With Girls, Jacobs*, Jones, and Mann present *The Lizard Lady*. This four-issue limited series proves for once and for all that the Lizard Lady is the most diabolical, evil mastermind ever to trod the Earth... *(July-August, $2.95)*

Herschell Gordon Lewis, the "classic" slasher-gorefest filmmaker, has another of his films adapted into a limited series: *Scum of the Earth*. A vice cop's daughter is enticed into a "modeling" assignment--not knowing that the previous model turned up dead! *(August, $2.50)*

Antarctic Press

Albedo, Steve Gallacci's anthropomorphic-sf favorite, is returning after far too long an absence. Since the old publisher, Thoughts and Images, is now defunct, Antarctic has agreed to take over the publishing chores. *Albedo Volume 2 #1* offers a new Erma Felna story that recaps what's happened before, plus an installment of Dan Flahive's Space Wolf. (June, $2.50)

Girls of Ninja High School is the latest in Ben Dunn's line of special NHS publications; this one is a 72-page special featuring new pin-ups by a variety of contributors. *Ninja High School* creator Dunn also offers a new short NHS story that will be available nowhere else, making this a summer must-have. *(June, $3.75)* A series from the pages of *Ninja High School, Zetraman*, also gets its own miniseries this summer, courtesy of Ross and Espinoza. (July, $1.95)

A+

A+ goes historical with *The Civil War*, a collection of gritty Civil War tales that is highlighted by a Sam Glanzman cover. There are many other publishers planning Civil War titles later this year or early next year, but A+ has the jump on 'em all this summer. *(August, $2.50)*

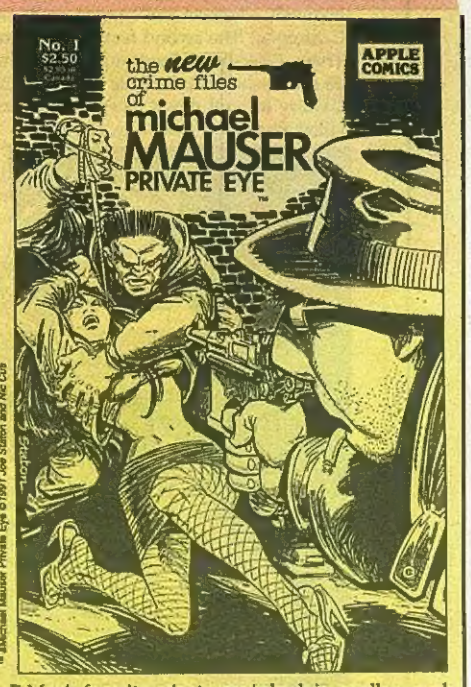
Hercules, the powerful hero of mythology, is also the star of his own comic book series this summer. Reprinting stories illustrated by Sam Glanzman, this series is totally re-dailogued by Len Sly; the stories remain faithful to the mythological source material. *(July-August, $2.50)*

Magicman, the Vietnam-based superhero created by Richard Hughes and Pete Costanza for the old ACG line, returns in a reprint title from A+. Like all ACG heroes, *Magicman* has a quirky style that gives the book a feel very different from the more traditional Marvel and DC heroes of the time. Dan and David Day supply the new cover for the first issue. *(June-August, $2.50)* A month later, Magicman's fellow hero *Nemesis* returns in his own reprint series. (July-August, $2.50)

Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves, one of this summer's blockbuster films, seems to have created a cottage industry of Robin Hood books. The best aspect of this Robin Hood revival, though, is that it has also brought back some respected comic book creators as well--like Sam Glanzman, who returns with all-new art galore in *The Thief of Sherwood*, a three-issue limited series. This isn't a reprint book; Glanzman has illustrated an all-new story of Robin Hood's legend, and the publisher promises lots of two-page spreads with plenty of action. *(June-August, $2.25)* A+ has a second Robin Hood project ready for the summer: *Swords of Valor Presents: Robin Hood*. This 48-page comic reprints classic Robin Hood material from the 50's and 60's, including work by Giordano, Boyle, and others. *(July, $2.50)*

Apple

Fish Police may be gone, but that doesn't mean that Steve Moncuse's piscine hero is out of the comic book biz; *Fish Shticks* by Moncuse and Hauk features all new stories of Inspector Gill and the Fish Police in the same format as the original title. *(July, $2.75)*


No. 1
$2.50
APPLE COMICS
the new crime files of michael MAUSER
PRIVATE EYE
™ &Michael Mauser Private Eye © 1991 Joe Staton and Nic Cuti

E-Man's favorite private eye is back in an all-new adventure by the writer-artist team who first created him all those many years ago. Nicola Cuti and Joe Staton return with *The New Crime Files of Michael Mauser #1*--but it may be his last case, as all the evidence keeps pointing to Mauser as the criminal! Fans of Hitchcock's *Spellbound* are going to have a field day with this one... *(June, $2.50)*

Don Lomax explores the survivalist genre with his new series, appropriately entitled *Survive!* The first issue shows how World War III began--and ended--before many people even knew what was going on. Now that it's over, the few who were smart enough to read the signs must determine how to cope ina post-apocalyptic world. *(August, $2.75)*

Aria

A Distant Soil is back--and boy, are thousands of fans going to be relieved! Ever since Donning Press' demise, readers have asked for Colleen Doran's sf-fantasy series to return from some publisher--and now, it's returning from Doran's own company. The series, which will be published on an every-six-weeks basis, will feature new and reprint material; missing pages will be restored, and everything will be put back in the form that Doran originally envisioned. Each issue will also include a text excerpt from Doran's novel Seasons of Spirng, which is *A Distant Soil* tale focusing on Jason and Liana. *(June-August, $1.75)*

Brave New Words

Ready for a hop through time and space? That's just what *Chronos Inc.*, a new series by Bojar and T.S. Wood, offers. Chronis Inc. is a cross-dimensional delivery service that will, for the right price, deliver anything, anywhere, any time. They weren't prepared for a time-flux that could destroy the future, however... *(August, $2)*

Caliber

After far too long a delay, Guy Davis is offering his many fans another issue of *Baker Street*, featuring the conclusion of the Children of the Night mystery. (June, $2.50) At the same time, Davis and Locke's *Baker Street Portfolio* will be released at last in a 2000-copy limited signed-and-numbered edition, featuring portfolio prints of eight previously-seen works and two pieces created especially for the portfolio. *(June, $24.95)*

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CSN SUMMER PREVIEW

Ready for a summer trip to the Old West? Then try ***Bounty***, a three-issue limited series by Thayer and Daly about a bounty hunter who befriends a woman and her son on the way to California. The second feature, "Navarro" by Truax, Peterson, & Bradford, features an Indian scout who abandons his post with the U.S. Cavalry to hunt down renegade soldiers who killed his family. *(June-Aug, $2.50)*

Silencers

If you enjoyed those clowns with an attitude in the early issues of ***Beautiful Stories For Ugly Children***, then Mac Duggan's ***Clown With a Gun*** is probably right up your alley. Not only is he a clown with a gun, but he's ready--in fact, almost eager--to use it! *(August, $2.95)*

The primary run of ***Deadworld*** has already been collected in trade paperbacks, but there are a lot of odds and ends that have proven very hard for collectors to track down. That's the reason for ***Deadworld: Bits and Pieces***, a 40-page one-shot that features various non-Deadworld Deadworld stories, including the first appearance from ***The Realm #4***. It's all illustrated creator Vince Locke. *(August, $2.95)*

Night Life, the much praised series by McColluch and Tristan, wraps up its first storyline in a 192-page trade paperback, ***Night Life: Rosebud and Other Stories***. This volume reprints the Strawberry Jam Comics issues of ***Night Life*** and adds an unpublished final tale to the collection. Later this year, Caliber will begin publishing a new ongoing ***Night Life*** series as well. *(June, $14.95)*

Orlak Redux reprints the Nieves-Holewczynski Orlak storyline that originally appeared in ***Caliber Presents;*** this is a compelling story of a man who awakens to find that his hands have been replaced with cold metallic claws--and that he may have used those claws to claim the lives of victims for reasons that he doesn't understand. *(July, $3.95)*

Quivers offers a new solution to sexual inequality: start shooting arrows! That's the solution that the Amazons come up with when they wind up on a Cleveland college campus--and you can imagine how things progress from there, although Brian Michael Bendis is hoping you'll pick up the book and see how he imagines the action will progress... *(August, $2.95)*

The Silencers, a new counterintelligence suspense series by Mark Askwith and R.G.Taylor, debuts in the ***Caliber Summer Special*** *(July, $3.95)*, then moves on to its own four-issue limited series the same month. This is a realistic look at the lives of those involved in espionage and counterespionage--no Nick Fury/SHIELD superheroics here! *(July, $2.50)*

The launch of Tome Press, Caliber's line of biographical, historical, and classics comics, continues this summer. ***The Art of Aubrey Beardsley*** is a self-explanatory summer release *(August, $2.95)*; ***Dore: The Illustrated Apocrypha*** and ***Dore: Book of Genesis*** reprint some of the classic biblical illustrations of Gustave Dore *(June & July, $2.50)*; ***Goblin Market*** features Ted Cauldron's adaptations of Christina Rosetti's poetry *(August, $2.50)*; ***Koolau the Leper*** features Charles Yates' adaptation of a lesser-known Jack London short story *(August, $2.50)*; ***A Modest Proposal*** offers Philip Hester's illustrated adaptation of Jonathan Swift's satirical essay about the plight of the Irish *(June, $2.50)*; ***Plague*** presents Vincent Locke illustrations to accompany narratives of people who lived through--and died from--the Black Plague *(August, $2.50)*; ***A Piece of Steak*** is Ron McCain's retelling of Jack London's story about a past-his-prime boxer *(June, $2.50)*; ***The Pied Piper of Hamelin*** features Dave Cooper's comics version of Robert Browning's classic poem *(July, $2.95)*; ***Poems of War*** features Cliff Van Meter's illustrated versions of classic war poems by Tennyson, Simonides, Melville, Crane, and others *(July, $2.50)*; and ***Zulunation*** by Wayne Reid tells the story of the Zulu War, a conflict that had devastating effects on Britain's position as a world power *(August, $2.50)*.

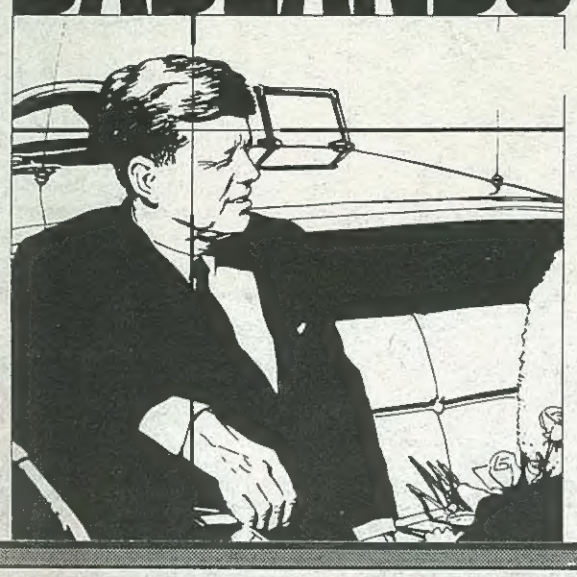
CIVA

Master of Mystics delves into a religious mythology that comics have touched on all too rarely: the gods of ancient India. Krishna is the hero of this story, set five millennia in the past, at a time when demonic rulers threatened the civilized world. *(June, $1.50)*

DARK HORSE

Aliens: Earth War Collection gathers the four-issue full-color miniseries by Mark Verheiden and Sam Kieth into a single trade paperback. Of particular interest is Mark Verheiden's introduction to this volume, which explains how all the various Aliens projects interconnect. *(July, $13.95)*

BADLANDS



Badlands ™ &© 1991 Steven Grant and Vince Giarrano

Badlands, the fictionalized account of the Kennedy assassination originally begun by Vortex (who published only a single issue), finds a new home at Vortex. Steven Grant and Vince Giarrano tell the story of a small-time car thief who finds himself caught up in a scheme much bigger than he ever envisioned. *(July-August, $2.25)*

It's going to be a very creepy summer thanks to Dark Horse--or should we say a very Creepy summer? ***Creepy***, the magazine that presented some of the most outstanding horror fiction of the 1960's, becomes a trade paperback in August--and a limited series this fall! The trade paperback reprints phenomenal work by Frank Frazetta, Alex Toth, Reed Crandall, Neal Adams, Steve Ditko, Al Williamson, John Severin, and more; Mike Kaluta supplies the all-new cover for the collection. *(August, $12.95)*

Sin City, Frank Miller's new series that debuted in the ***Dark Horse Presents Fifth Anniversary Special***, continues as a monthly feature in ***Dark Horse Presents*** throughout the summer. Miller is writing and illustrating this noir series--and that's sure to thrill Frank Miller fans this summer. *(June-August, $1.95)*

Deadface: Doing The Islands With Bacchus collected various Eddie Campbell ***Bacchus*** strips that have appeared in a variety of other

Vamparella ™ &© 1991 Harris Publications

Vamparella

publications over the past months; this three-issue limited series acts as a lead-in for Dark Horse's new ***Deadface*** ongoing series that debuts in early 1992. *(July-August, $2.95)*

Robert E. Howard's hero Almuric, already the star of a Dark Horse graphic novel, graduates to his own limited series, ***Ironhand of Almuric***, this summer. Roy Thomas, Howard adapter par excellence, is the writer for this series; he's joined by artist Paul Winchell, while graphic novel artist Tim Conrad supplies the painted covers. *(July-August, $2.25)*

The Mask is back--and the guy wearing it this time is a policeman who feels helpless to stop the crime that preys on his city--until the mask comes into his care. That's right, the zany vigilante is back again in a new series by John Arcudi and Doug Mahnke. *(August, $2.50)*

Before ***Plastic Forks*** and ***Metropol***, Ted McKeever created ***Eddy Current***. It's a zany twelve-part, twelve-hour miniseries about an insane man who has just twelve hours to save the world before he has to return to the asylum for breakfast! ***The Eddy Current Hardcover*** collects all twelve issues of the series plus every other Eddy Current piece published anywhere else, making it the first comprehensive collection of this key McKeever series. *(July, $24.95)*

This is going to be a Rocketeer summer, so what better time for Dark Horse to publish the final installment of ***Rocketeer Adventure Magazine***'s New York adventure storyline? Dave Stevens, Mike Kaluta, and Arthur Adams wrap up the storyline ina thrilling full-color finale; the remainder of the issue features Rocketeer pin-ups by a variety of artists (and a new Betty pin-up by Stevens himself!). *(July, $2.95)*

Dark Horse continues its line of Terminator comics with ***The Terminator One Shot***, a 48-page prestige-format special by James Robinson and Matt Wagner that features a female Terminator who is actually the first Terminator, arriving years before her better-known Arnold Schwarzenneger counterpart! Dark Horse is promising a never-before-done-in-comics special effect in this book--but we're not going to tell you what it is, so you'll have to find out for yourself! *(June, $5.95)* A month later, Dark Horse premieres what will probably be its most popular ***Terminator*** project yet: a limited series written by James Robinson and illustrated by Paul Gulacy and Karl Kesel! ***Terminator: Secondary Objectives*** picks up where the first Dark Horse miniseries concluded, with the remaining Terminator intent upon completing its second objective: the execution of Sarah Conner! *(July-August, $2.50)* Fans who missed out on the first ***Terminator*** limited series by John Arcudi and Chris Warner will be able to "catch up" with ***The Terminator Collection***, a full-color trade paperback reprinting all four issues of the hit comic--and adding a new John Bolton cover. *(June, $12.95)*

Remember Vampirella, the sexy Warren Publications heroine? She returns this summer in ***Vampirella: The Cult of Chaos***, a trade paperback that reprints an early Vampirella storyline by Archie Goodwin, Tom Sutton, and Jose Gonzalez; this reprint volume sets the stage for a new Vampirella series beginning this fall. *(Dark Horse/Harris, $12.95)*

Legion of Super-Heroes ™ &© 1991 DC Comics

Legion of Super-Heroes

DC

Animal Man has become a fan favorite for DC--and the early issues are very hard to come by as more and more readers discover the hero's animal magnetism. That's why DC's ***Animal Man Trade Paperback***, reprinting the first nine issues, is sure to be a popular favorite this summer. *(July, $19.95)*

Armageddon 2001 continues through the summer; almost every DC annual features a look at the heroes' futures, all tied in to Waverider's hunt for the hero who will eventually become the villainous Monarch. ***Flash Annual #4*** *(July, $2)* presents a future in which Wally West in no longer the Flash--but he may have to become the scarlet speedster once again to save his son from a group of villains who have targeted the youngster! ***Action Comics Annual #3*** presents a possible future in which Superman runs for President of the U.S. *(July, $2)*. ***LEGION '91 Annual #2*** gives readers a glimpse of Lobo's future--and introduces Vril Dox of 2001, the tyrant who commands the LEGION. *(July, $2.95)*. ***New Titans Annual #7***, originally scheduled for late spring release but now moved to late summer, offers a glimpse at the future of Nightwing--and introduces the New Teen Titans! *(August, $3.50)* ***Adventures of Superman Annual #3*** offers another possible future for Superman--one in which he becomes involved with the warlord Maxima and may well be led by her evil influence to become Monarch. *(August, $2)* ***Detective Comics Annual #4*** once again features an older Batman coming out of retirement--but this time around, he's been crippled from a battle with Ra's al Ghul and replaced as Batman by Tim Drake. When Drake is shot, Batman reemerged to avenge his partner's death *(August, $2)* ***Justice League Europe Annual #2*** sends Waverider not a mere ten years into the future, but through various levels of time, where he meets Bat Lash, the Demon, Jonah Hex, and the Legion of Super-Heroes. *(August, $2)* It all comes to a close in ***Armageddon 2001 #2***, which reveals which hero becomes evil, which hero dies, and which hero is forever changed. *(September, $2)*

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CSN SUMMER PREVIEW

Legends of the Dark Knight

Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #21-23 breaks its five-issue-storyline format with a three-parter by Mike Barr and Bart Sears. "Faith" introduces a vigilante group that has been inspired by the Batman to battle Gotham City crime on their own; unlike Batman, however, they're much less prepared for the war. Meanwhile, Bruce Wayne has his own problems when his friend Leslie Thompkins condemns both the vigilantes and the Batman. *(July-September, $1.75)*

Batman: Holy Terror is the first publication to carry the Elseworlds logo; the stories in this series will depict how the Batman might have developed in different times and different places. This story by Alan Brennert and Norm Breyfogle sets Batman in a tyrannically religious alternate world in which the church has secretly ordered the death of Bruce Wayne's parents to stop their involvement in an underground movement. Gotham City may be different...Batman may look different...but the essential elements remain the same in this prestige-format one-shot *(August, $4.95)*.

Batman: The Sunday Classics is the final volume in the DC/Kitchen Sink Press reprinting o the entire 1940's Batman comic strip. This volume, appropriately published in full color, offers over 200 pages of prime Golden Age Batman material, most of which has never been seen by even the most devoted Batman fans. *(June, $19.95)*

Dave McKean's ***Black Orchid Poster*** *(June, $5.95)*, a new painting featuring the Black Orchid, Swamp Thing, and Batman, is a new painting done as a tie-in with the ***Black Orchid Trade Paperback***, reprinting the hit Gaiman/McKean limited series. *(June, $19.95)*

DC has a new collectible line debuting this summer: the ***DC Collectors' Mugs***. The first mug, featuring ***Batman***, offers a sculpted Batman-shaped handle on a mug featuring a bas-relief image of Gotham City. There are only 5000 copies of each mug available, so be sure to let your local comic shop know you're interested! *(August, $14.95)*

Dark Horse has ***The Terminator***, Marvel has ***The Terminator II***--and DC has ***Deathstroke the Terminator***! Oh, he may not be a robot from the future, but that doesn't mean that he's not deadly to his enemies! Deathstroke The Terminator is Slade Wilson, already well-known to fans of the New Titans; his new series by Marv Wolfman, Steve Erwin, and Willie Blyberg features the heavily-armed hero in Punisher-style solo action. Mike Zeck, illustrator of the ***Punisher*** limited series, supplies the covers for each issue of ***Deathstroke The Terminator***, ensuring that Punisher fans notice this new title. *(June, $1.75)*

1989's hit ***Hawkworld*** miniseries gets trade paperback treatment this summer--and fans get a new Timothy Truman wraparound cover painting to complement the three-issue storyline that redefined the modern Hawkman and Hawkwoman. *(September, $16.95)*

Legion of Super-Heroes #21 begins a four-part sequel to the famous "Great Darkness Saga" storyline. Al Gordon and Keith Giffen, now the solo creators of Legion, introduce Darkseid and Lobo to the storyline and set the groundwork for this summer multi-parter. *(June-August, $1.75)*

Lots of publishers are offering their version of Robin Hood this summer--but DC is taking a different approach. Their new title ***Outlaws***

laws presents Jan Friedman's and Luke McDonnell's vision of a post-apocalyptic team of bandits who fight for the rights of the common man in a bleak world. *(July, $1.95)*

Most people would love to become a super-human--but the hero of ***The Psycho*** hates the idea. ***The Psycho*** is set in a world in which the government uses superhumans to carry out its most difficult jobs, and an otherwise normal agent must become a super-powered killer to track down the super-powered assassins who are tracking him. Jim Hudnall and Dan Brereton are the masterminds behind this gritty three-issue limited series. *(August, $4.95)*

DC has struck gold before with the revitalization of a lesser-known hero from the past, so there'll be a lot of fans eager to see if they can do it again with ***Ragman***. This new limited series by Robert Loren Fleming, Keith Giffen, and Pat Broderick is the story of Rory Regan, a young man who answers the call of a box of living rags to exact vengeance from those who killed his father, the proprietor of the "Rags 'n' Tatters" pawn shop. *(August, $1.50)*

One of the most popular members of Green Arrow's supporting cast gets her own limited series in ***Shado: Song of the Dragon***. Mike Grell is the writer for this four-issue series pitting Shado against the Yakuza for the possession of a ceremonial samurai sword; he is joined by artist Michael Davis Lawrence, working in a style very different than his previous series ***Etc.*** *(June-August, $4.95)*

Star Trek: The Modala Imperative is actually two limited series--one featuring the ***Star Trek*** crew and the second featuring the ***Next Generation*** crew. By the time the two four-issue limited series are complete, previously undeveloped links between the two series will be established--and McCoy and Spock will play a crucial role in the ***Next Generation*** storyline! ***Star Trek*** fans will have to have this groundbreaking crossover series. *(June-August, $1.75)*

Swamp Thing gets a new writer and a new artist--and what a new writer she is! Horror author Nancy A. Collins, best known for her vampire novel ***Sunglasses After Dark***, debuts as Swamp Thing's regular writer; her New Orleans background makes her a perfect choice for the book. She'll be working with new artist Tom Mandrake beginning this summer to give ***Swamp Thing*** thing a darker, more malevolent feel. *(June-August, $1.75)*

Last winter, DC brought back Enemy Ace in a lavish new hardcover graphic novel; this summer, ***Viking Prince*** gets the same treatment. Lee Marrs and Bo Hampton have created a stunning 128-page ***Viking Prince*** graphic novel that features grand adventure, romance, a quest, and a menacing sea-demon. The real star of the book, though, is Hampton's painted artwork. *(June, $24.95)*

War of the Gods is George Perez' *second* mega-crossover miniseries this year (he's already busy on Marvel's ***Infinity Gauntlet***). This time, Perez is the writer and co-penciller of the multi-hero storyline; this series brings the ancient gods back to earth with conquest on their minds--thanks in large part to the manipulations of Circe! DC will be offering variant cover designs for each issue of this limited series--and speculators are going to want both formats. Of course, there are also numerous crossovers planned during the series' four-month run, with ***Wonder Woman*** playing a significant role in the story. *(July-August, $1.75)*

DC/Impact

DC's new Impact imprint debuted in the spring, but the line really develops this summer with the introduction of several new heroes and a Who's Who to help readers get to know the cast of this new-universe series.

The Fly, perhaps the best-known of all the Archie heroes, undergoes a grand revival as a part of the Impact line. A youngster, Jason Troy, creates a hero for a high school class--and soon discovers that he has the power to transform himself into his own creation! Mike Parobeck, the talented artist of DC's ***El Diablo***, really shines on this new title that's likely to be the flagship book of the Impact line. *(July, $1)*

The Jaguar, a feral heroine who is as new to America as she is to super-powers, premieres in her own series by William Messner-Loebs and David Williams *(June, $1)*

Every superhero universe needs a behind-the-scenes secret organization to keep up with the heroes and villains--and the Impact Universe is no exception. That's where ***The Web*** comes in; this is a government team whose high-tech fully-armed agents not only keep tabs on the heroes--they do a little heroing of their own! Len Strazewski, Tom Artis, and Bill Wray are the creators for Impact's first team title. *(July, $1)*

The ***Impact Who's Who*** series is offers 48 character profiles in two 48-page packets done in the DC ***Who's Who*** format *(July-September, $4.95)*. To keep everything organized, you can pick up an ***Impact Comics Who's Who Binder***, illustrated by Jeff Butler, specially designed to hold both ***Who's Who*** packets. *(July, $3.50)*

Disney

By day, he may be mild-mannered Drake Mallard, but at sundown, he becomes that feared fighter of crime, ***Darkwing Duck***, "the terror that flies by night." His hour-long premiere episode becomes a four-part limited series this summer, courtesy of Walt Disney--and if there's any justice, an ongoing series will follow! *(August, $1.50)*

Anxiety Times, a new semi-annual Eclipse anthology series, offers a variety of looks at angst-ridden contemporary life. Don McGregor, Gene Colan, Gilbert Hernandez, Scott McCloud, and Dave Chelsea are just some of the many creators who contribute to this 128-page black-and-white anthology title. *(June, $12.95)*

Appleseed remains one of Eclipse's most popular titles, which means that there are plenty of readers who'll be glad to see Eclipse's ***Appleseed Book Three: The Scales of Prometheus*** trade paperback this summer. This volume reprints all five issues of the Masamune Shirow series, complete with a new cover. *(June, $13.95--also available in hardcover)* Another popular Japanese anime-inspired series, ***Dirty Pair***, gets a second trade paperback volume this summer, with the second miniseries, ***Dirty Pair: Dangerous Acquaintances***, gathered in a single volume. *(July, $11.95/also available in hardcover)*

It's going to be a dinosaur summer; in addition to the plethora of dinosaur titles from Monster Comics (we tell you about those later on in this ***CSN Summer Special***), Eclipse's long-awaited ***Dinosaurs Attack!*** comic book miniseries is ready for release. Based on the Topps trading card set, the series tells about the return of the dinosaurs to contemporary Earth. They're back--and they've got a real attitude... Gary Gerani, the author of the original card set, writes the comic book series, which is illustrated by Herb Trimpe, George Freeman, and Earl Norem. *(August, $3.50)*

Timothy Truman is having quite a summer at Eclipse: not only is his ***Spider*** series proving to be one of Eclipse's most popular books of '91, but he has a new black-and-white one-shot, ***Dragon Chiang***, ready for summer release as well. ***Dragon Chiang***, set in a bleak future in which America has been ravaged by the Great Recession, spotlights a Chinese

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trucker who delivers goods from Asia to North America via the Iron Road, a highway across the Bering Strait. It seems, though, that there are some people who'd love to see Dragon Chiang's mission--and his life-- cut short... *(June, $2.95)*

Can it be? ***James Bond #3*** by Mike Grell, ready for publication at last, only a few years after the series began? It looks like it's true! Now, at long last, read the outcome of the confrontation between Widziadlo and 007! *(August, $4.95)*

Are you ready for another Robin Hood comic? Eclipse certainly hopes so, because they have one of the most ambitious Robin Hood projects of the summer! ***Robin Hood*** is a fully painted series written by Valarie Jones, illustrated by Tim Truman, and painted by Christopher Schenck (who provided the color for the Marvel Universe Trading Cards). The series draws on a variety of Robin Hood sources to create a definitive version of the Robin Hood legend--a version that serves as a perfect prequel to the summer's blockbuster film ***Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves.*** *(July-August, $2.95)*

Housebound ™ &© 1991 Rick Geary

ETERNITY

Sure, many people have accused Washington of being filled with blood-suckers--but it's doubtful that they were thinking about vampires when they used the phrase. Vampires turn lobbyists in ***Blood Junkies,*** a new limited series by Finley and Hagan--and it's a pretty persuasive lobby indeed! When they feel threatened, though, the remove an "uncooperative" senator and replace him with a lookalike double. *(August, $2.50)*

Carnival of Souls, Herk Karvey's slasher classic that many credit as the inspiration for many of today's splatter films, becomes a prestige-format graphic novel. This is pretty standard slasher fare--but when Harvey did it, it was actually original! *(August, $4.95)*

Want the real inside scoop on the animation industry? Then you'll want ***Cartoon Confidential*** by Jim Korkis and John Cawley, a hefty trade paperback featuring a behind-the-scenes look at animation by two of the field's best-known historians. William Hanna of Hanna-Barbera supplies the introduction. *(June, $14.95)*

Who makes Mr. Monster seems staid and subdued? ***Doctor Gorpon,*** that's who. Doctor Gorpon is a monster-battling hero who uses his own powers--and an impressive arsenal--to stave off demons, devils, and icky monsters. Marc Hansen, creator of ***Ralph Snart,*** is the mastermind behind this new title. *(June, $2.25)*

Shuriken ™ &© 1991 Malibu Graphics

Eternity's horror titles have generally been traditional ECish horror or gruesome gorefests--but with ***Killing Stroke,*** Eternity explores the realm of more sophisticated horror. Mark Buckingham, Shane Oakley, D'Israeli, Ben Dilworth, and other British creators are featured in the premiere issue of Eternity's British horror anthology. *(June, $2.50)*

Doctor Gorpon has his one of battling mystical bad guys--but that's not the style of Peter Mantus, supernatural investigator. In ***The Mantus Files #1,*** horror novelist Sidney Williams takes Mantus, among other places, to New Orleans, where he must deal with urban vampires. *(August, $2.50)*

Puppet Masters II, recently released on video, is adapted to full-color comics in a two-issue limited series. DeVries and Lumsden, the creators responsible for the original Puppet Masters limited series, team up again for the sequel. *(August, $2.50)*

Remember ***Shuriken,*** the martial arts heroine? She's back in a six-issue limited series that debuts this summer. This time around, Shuriken faces her most powerful enemy--herself--when Morgan Enterprises creates a Shuriken duplicate to carry out their dirty work. *(June, $2.50)*

Trancers, the cult-favorite film, inspires a new comic book that's the latest joint venture between Full Moon Entertainment and Eternity Comics. This four-issue full-color miniseries brings Jack Deth back to the present in a quest for his arch-nemesis Whistler--but Whistler intends to locate and kill Deth's ancestors and thereby wipe him out of existence! *(July-August, $2.50)*

FANTACO

Many of today's comics older comics fans grew up with ***Famous Monsters of Filmland***; it's been a major influence on numerous film and comic book creators. Some of those creators will get a chance to offer their insights on the famous monster magazine in ***Famous Monsters of Filmland Chronicles,*** a 192-page tribute to the late, great magazine. Lots of illustrations and cover reproductions are included in this hefty volume. *(July, $19.95)*

FANTAGOR

Richard Corben is well-known for his adult fantasy, but he has quite a talent for horror as well. ***Horror in the Dark,*** a five-issue limited series, gives Corben a chance to show off his most terrifying work. Each issue will feature a chapter of the ongoing serial "Tales of the Black Diamond" as well as stand-alone horror shorts. *(June, $2)*

FANTAGRAPHICS

Rick Geary's work was one of the highlights of National Lampoon in its glory days; now some of his earliest work has been collected in the ***Housebound With Rick Geary Volume One.*** Some of the work in this volume has never been published before. *(June, $11.95)*

Journey: Wardrums #3 is at last ready for publication! This series seems to be more-or-lass an annual affair--but seeing how busy creator Bill Messner-Loebs is, that's not surprising--but fans are willing to wait however long it takes for new adventures of the frontiersman Wolverine MacAlistaire. *(July, $2.25)*

Eddie Campbell has become quite a comics celebrity recently, but he's actually been creating comics material for several years. ***Little Italy*** collects a variety of Campbell's seemingly unrelated mid-80's stories into a single volume; together, many of the stories offer an intriguing look at the plight of the British attempting to fit in in Australia. *(June, $3.95)*

Fans who think that comics don't have to deal with superheroes, intrepid adventurers, or horrifying monstrosities have relatively few alternatives available to them. This summer, Fantagraphics is offering an affordable break from the mutant-mania of the season: Charles Bukowski's ***Two Winos,*** the story of a pair of drifters who wander Southern California in search of work, adapted into comics by Matthias Schultheiss, the creator of ***Bell's Theorum.*** *(June, $2.25)*

FIRST

Beauty & the Beast returns in a third graphic novel, ***Silent Echoes,*** by Cox and Rausch. This is a new prestige-format tale of Vincent and Catherine. (June, $5.95)

First's ***Classics Illustrated*** continues with ***Candide,*** Voltaire's satirical novel, as adapted by Joe Staton *(August)*; ***The Hunchback of Notre Dame,*** Tim Conrad's adaptation of Victor Hugo's romantic novel *(August)*; ***Kidnapped,*** adapted by Mike Vosburg *(June)*; Wayne Vansant's adaptation of Stephen Crane's ***The Red Badge of Courage*** *(July)*; and Gary Gianni's rendition of Verne's ***20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*** *(July)*. ($3.95@)

FLEETWAY/QUALITY

Ready for a Judge Dredd summer? Fleetway/Quality is! ***Judge Dredd: The Megazine*** is a new 48-page prestige-format full-color title featuring new Judge Dredd material in fully-painted stories. Featured creators include Alan Grant, Garth Ennis, John Wagner, Jim Baike, Cam Kennedy, and others. *(June-August, $4.95)*

Judge Dredd quitting the Justice Department? He does just that in ***Judge Dredd: Tales of the Dead Man,*** a 64-page graphic novel by Wagner, Simpson, and Anderson. ***Tales of the Dead Man*** also introduces Judge Dredd's replacement, a cadet raised from Dredd's own gene pool, and serves as a prequel for the upcoming epic Necropolis. *(August, $8.95)*

GERBER

The Photojournal Guide to Comics Volume 3: Marvel is a comprehensive 360-page two-volume set that offers over 7000 key Marvel Comics covers from the beginning of the Silver Age to the late 1970's. It's a collector's dream, featuring high-quality reproductions that make it easy for any collector to take a walk down Marvel memory lane. *(July, $59.95/$129.95 Ltd Ed)*

GLADSTONE

Gladstone is out of the EC reprint business, but that doesn't mean that they've abandoned horror entirely; instead, they've created a new line of horror titles. The premiere book, ***Grave Tales,*** features horror in the EC style by Joe Staton, Tom Sutton, Jim Van Hise, and more. A month later, the second title, ***Maggots,*** debuts; it, too, features anthology stories in an ECish host format. The third title, ***Dread of Night,*** introduces a French "gore-met" host who, in the first issue, presents stories from Yaco, Boyette, Gertler, Bender, Colon, and others. Golden Age great L.B. Cole supplies the cover for the premiere issue. Each issue offers 48 magazine-sized black-and-white pages, complete with (of course) an appropriately sepulchral host. *(June-July, $3.95)*

HARVEY

Harvey has latched onto some major-league licensed properties, and they're rolling 'em out this summer. ***Back to the Future,*** inspired by the upcoming animated series based on the hit

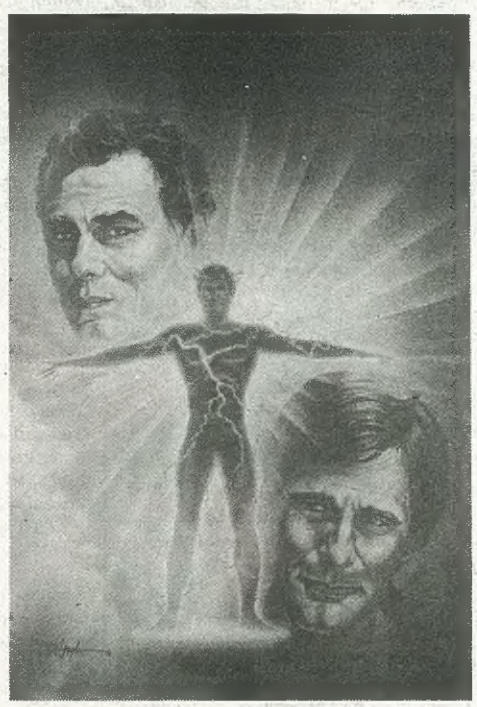
Back to the Future ™ &© 1991 USC and Amblin

films, features new adventures of Marty McFly and Doc as they travel to one era after another; Dwayne McDuffie and comics legend Gil Kane handle the creative honors for the book. *(July, $1.50)* ***Beetlejuice,*** DeCesare and Colon's comic book based on the animated series (which is, in turn, based on Tim Burton's film), features all the characters you've come to know and love, including the famous "ghost with the most." *(June, $1.50)*

INNOVATION

The Vampire Lestat wraps up its run early this summer--but that doesn't mean that comics fans will have to go Lestat-less! The month after ***Vampire Lestat*** comes to an end, Innovation unveils its adaptation of Anne Rice's ***Interview With The Vampire.*** Joe Phillips, who was the artist for the first issue of ***Vampire Lestat,*** is back with Lestat for this 12-issue series. *(July, $2.50)*

A month later, the sequel to ***The Vampire Lestat*** debuts, also running twelve issues. ***Queen of the Damned*** presents Akasha, the Egyptian queen and the original vampire, brought out of her eons-long slumber by Lestat. Before too long, though, Lestat, Maius, Louis, Armand, and the few remaining vampires realize that they must stop her in her endeavors to conquer



Quantum Leap ™ &© 1991 Universal City Studios

Quantum Leap

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mankind--no matter what cost they must pay! *(August, $2.50)*

Speaking of ***Vampire Lestat,*** hardcore collectors will have to have ***The Vampire Lestat: Slipcased Set #1.*** This limited edition set will feature all twelve issues plus two issues of Innovation's Vampire Companion, all packaged in a gold-embossed, leather-look slipcase that opens up to a book format. *(August)*

Quantum Leap makes the jump to comics this summer, courtesy of Broderick, Jones, and Rockwell. In each issue, Sam Beckett travels into a different period of time, hoping that he will eventually find his way back to his own time. ***Quantum Leap #1*** takes Sam to Memphis in 1968--three days before the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. *(July, $2.50)*

Rocket Man: King of the Rocketmen, a four-issue adaptation of the classic serial that inspired Dave Stevens' ***Rocketeer,*** is an affectionate homage to the serials of bygone days. Each adapts three of the twelve chapters, complete with cliffhanger endings. Chris Moeller is painting the book in sepia tones to give it an old-movie feel. *(June-September, $2.25)*

Studio Proteus' first project with Innovation is ***3X3 Eyes,*** Yuzo Takada's grand fantasy adventure that focuses on a young man's search for his missing father. Before too long, the young man discovers a strange three-eyed race, the Triclops--and he loses his soul! Will he be able to find his father, regain his own soul, and return to his old lifestyle? *(June, $2.25)*

KITCHEN SINK

Grateful Dead Comix? Hey, we're not kiddin' here! Kitchen Sink has licensed the rights to produce comics inspired by Grateful Dead songs and anecdotes--and they've drafted some high-profile talent to help them bring the project to life, including Timothy Truman, Dan Steffan, and others. *(July, $4.95)*

Kitchen Sink has several tin signs scheduled for summer release, including the ***Dave Stevens Rocketeer Tin Sign*** and two ***Betty Boop tin signs.*** Each is produced in small quantities, making them surefire collectors items. *(June, $20@)*

Grateful Dead Comix ™ &© 1991 Grateful Dead

LEADSLINGER

This new publisher offers three titles later this summer. First is ***The Black Flame,*** a Gillis-Sutton series originally published by First Comics. After Leadslinger reprints the First issues, they'll move on to original stories. Next is ***The Black Bat*** by Judt and Timmons, a dark adventure starring a world-famous singer who's also the possessor of the secrets of the hidden history of Western civilization. Of course, with the good comes the bad: he also bears the mark of the bat, a scar that appears across his face every night. ***The Terror*** by Judt, Artis, and Brozman introduces a gritty, hard-hitting street hero who wears a skull and crossbones on his chest and cracks a few skulls with his hands. Finally, there's ***Twisters,*** an 8-issue limited series by Judt, Timmons, and Brozman that explores the horrors of addiction within a costumed hero framework. *(August, $2.50@)*

MARVEL

For a couple of years now, ***Comic Shop News*** has been telling you about the Fabian Nicieza-Kevin Maguire Captain America: Year One series that's been in the works. Well, the name has been changed to ***The Adventures of Captain America,*** but that's the only change; otherwise, the series is just what the name "Captain America Year One" implied. How did Steve Rogers become the guinea pig for the super-soldier experiment? What part did the Red Skull play in Captain America's creation? How did Captain America's costume originate? It's all here in this four-issue prestige-format series! *(July-August, $4.95)*

Alien Legion: Tenants of Hell, a two-issue limited series by Chuck Dixon, Larry Stroman, and Dan Panosian, picks up where ***Alien Legion: On the Edge*** left off. The Nomad Squad is still stuck ten years in the future--a future that's very, very different than their own time. When the Namod Squad is ordered to squelch a rebellion on the planet Combine IV--and battle an army of children--they know that they're really in trouble. *(July-August, $4.50)*

Amazing Spider-Man reaches its landmark 350th issue this summer--and it's also artist Erik Larsen's final issue of the title. Spider-Man and Dr. Doom face off in the double-sized issue; a month later, David Michelinie is joined by new artist Mark Bagley for a multi-part storyline that pits Spider-Man and New Warrior Nova against the Tri-Sentinel. *(June-August, $1.50/$1)* Meanwhile, the three Spider-Man Annuals for the summer feature the "Vibranium Vendetta" storyline that unites Spider-Man, Iron Man, and Black Panther in a race to stop the creation of a flawed synthetic vibranium that has the power to destroy other metals. *(June-July, $2@)*

Deathtrap: The Vault is an all-new Avengers graphic novel that unites the Avengers and Freedom Force to try to thwart an escape attempt from the maximum-security Vault, where supervillains are imprisoned. Danny Fingeroth and Ron Lim handle the creative honors. *(July, $9.95)*

What's in ***The Best of Marvel Comics?*** Not even Marvel knows, because the contents are being chosen by Marvel's own editors, writers, and artists--but you know it's going to be a wide-ranging assortment of Marvel's most outstanding material. *(July, $12.95)*

Are there any more uncharacteristic heroes than Bill and Ted? Heroic they may not be--but stars of their own comic book they most certainly will be this summer. ***Bill & Ted II: Bill & Ted's Bogus Adventure*** adapts the second film--a story that takes Bill and Ted to hell and back! A month after the adaptation appears, Marvel will release an ongoing ***Bill & Ted*** series. *(July-August, $4.95/$1)*

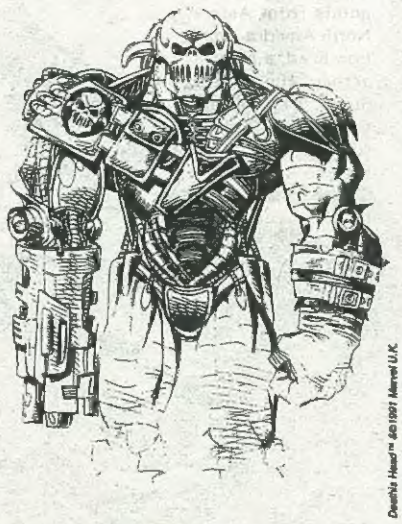
Captain Planet and the Planeteers, the ecologically-minded television series, becomes an ongoing Marvel comic thanks to Jim Salicrup and Barry Dutter. Each issue is designed to make its readers aware of what they can do to help save the environment. *(August, $1)*

Death's Head is back--but he may not survive for long, because he's being hunted by the new Death's Head! Find out what's going on in a new limited series by Dan Abnett, Liam Sharp, and Andy Lanning. *(August, $1.95)*

Alan Davis is back on ***Excalibur*** again! Well, not yet--but he will be before the summer's over! Not only that, but he'll be both writing and pencilling the book! Look for lots of changes once Alan returns the book to its former glory beginning with ***Excalibur #42.*** *(August, $1.75)*

The Fantastic Four celebrates its thirtieth anniversary this fall--but new writer Tom DeFalco and new artist Paul Ryan lay the groundwork for the celebration in August, when the Puppet Master provides the Mad Thinker with all the information he needs to finally destroy the Fantastic Four! (August, $1)

Is it possible that The Impossible Man could be back in a second summer special? You betcha! Last summer's special was so popular that Marvel has put together ***Impossible Man Summer Special #2,*** bringing the Impossible Man and his fellow Poppuppians back to Earth in a search for a missing Impkid. *(July, $2)*



Death's Head

The Infinity Gauntlet, Jim Starlin & George Perez' multi-hero mega-crossover series that pits the Marvel Universe against Thanos, continues throughout the summer. This story is so big that it spills over into literally dozens of other comics, including issues of ***Hulk, Silver Surfer, Dr. Strange, Sleepwalker,*** and others. *(June-August, $2.50)*

How do you follow up Barry Windsor-Smith's "Weapon X" storyline in ***Marvel Comics Presents?*** You draft Peter David and Sam Kieth to present Wolverine's eight-installment confrontation with a nemesis with adamantium skin, that's how! The action gets underway in ***Marvel Comics Presents #85***--the same issue that begins the Lobdell-Liefeld eight-part Beast storyline! *(July-August, $1.25)*

We're so used to thinking of ***Marvel Masterworks*** as a fall-winter event that it's hard to be-

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The Saga of The VIKING PRINCE™
Written by Lee Marrs and Painted by Bo Hampton
A 128 page Hardcover Graphic Novel from DC Comics
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CSN SUMMER PREVIEW

Wolverine Bloody Choices

lieve that this year's additions to the series will begin in the summer. It's true, though: ***Marvel Masterworks Volume 16: The Amazing Spider-Man*** reprints ***Spidey 31-40*** and ***Amazing Spider-Man Annual #2***, classic issues all. *(August, $34.95)*

Working with Impel, Marvel has readied a second set of ***Marvel Universe Trading Cards; Series II*** features another 162 cards, five new holograms, and an even snazzier graphic design! With ***X-Force #1*** boosting interest in the Marvel trading cards, look for these cards to sell even better than the first series (if that's possible!). *(June, $1/pack)*

Last winter, Marvel reprinted Jamie Delano and David Lloyd's original Night Raven stories; this summer, Delano and Lloyd present a new ***Night Raven*** graphic novel, ***House of Cards***, continuing Night Raven's brutal war with the underworld. *(June, $14.95)*

Punisher P.O.V., the Jim Starlin-Berni Wrightson limited series that kicked off in the spring, wraps up this summer. *(June-August, $4.95)* There's another Punisher special, appropriately entitled ***Punisher: Family Affair***, in the works, and it brings back the Punisher's creator, Gerry Conway, to pen a story in which the Punisher comes to the aid of two children whose parents were killed by a brutal druglord. *(August, $2.50)*

John Byrne's returning to ***She-Hulk***! For fans who have been hoping that ***She-Hulk*** would return to the wild and whimsical style of its first eight issues, hope no more, because John Byrne's making your hopes a reality! The first issue reveals that She-Hulk has been having a bad dream for the past twenty-three months--but she's awake now, and ready for action in the John Byrne tradition. *(July, $1.50)*

IF the cover to ***Spider-Man #13*** looks familiar, don't be surprised--it's almost the same cover as you saw in various editions of ***Spider-Man #1***. The key difference, though, is that Spidey is wearing his black costume again for a two-part story. ***Spider-Man #15*** features a spoof of this summer's upcoming mega-hit ***X-Men #1***. *(June-Aug, $1.75)*

Terminator II: Judgement Day is ready to invade motion picture theaters this summer--and Marvel's helping Terminator II invade the comic shops as well. Greg Wright and Klaus Janson bring the film to comics--and their adaptation paves the way for Marvel's ongoing ***Terminator II*** series this fall! *(July, $4.95)*

Marvel's trade paperback offerings for the summer include ***Akira Trade Paperback #2***, reprinting ***Akira #4-6*** *(June, $13.95)*; ***Incredible Hulk: Ground Zero***, a 176-page volume reprinting the Peter David/Todd McFarlane "Gammatown" storyline from ***Hulk #340-346*** *(June, $12.95)*;

The most popular Avenger without his own monthly book remedies that oversight this July. ***Wonder Man #1*** features the artwork of new discovery Jeff Johnson (who has worked with Jim Lee); the series focuses on the problems faced by a hero who also hopes to be a major motion picture star. Gerard Jones, author of ***The Trouble With Girls***, makes his Marvel debut as writer of this series. The first issue will have a special "movie poster" for one of Wonder Man's films. *(July, $1)*

Wolverine: Bloody Choices features Wolverine and Nick Fury on the trail of the same man--but for very different reasons. Each is determined to capture Bullfinch--even if he has to fight the other to do it. This graphic novel introduces a new character, Shiv, with the same rapid-healing factor as Wolverine has. *(June, $12.95)*

X-Factor undergoes a major membership shift--and creative shake-up--later this summer. It had to happen, though, since the original members of X-Factor are off to join the new X-Men. So who's going to be in ***X-Factor***? Havok, Polaris, Wolfsbane, Guido/Strong Guy, Multiple Man, Multiple Man, and Multiple Man. Peter David and Larry Stroman are bringing some wit, some whimsy, and lots of excitement to the newest X-Men title--and don't expect the same sort of thing in ***X-Factor #71*** that you've been seeing for the past seventy issues, okay? *(August, $1)*

The New Mutants may have been a hot title when it was cancelled, but the heat it generated was nothing compared to the sizzling reception its replacement, ***X-Force #1***, is going to receive. Fabian Nicieza and Rob Liefeld have transformed the New Mutants into one of the hottest titles of the year--and to make it even hotter, Marvel is polybagging every copy and including one of five different Marvel Universe cards available only with this book! *(June, $1.50)*

The "Mutant Genesis" storyline that begins early this summer helps pave the way for the debut of a new ***X-Men*** title later in the season--but it also means that former X-Men readers will want to start picking up the ***X-Men*** and ***X-Factor*** to get in on the ground floor of the X-Men/X-Factor membership shake-up. The storyline in this season's Mutant Annuals also wraps up a lot of loose ends to pave the way for the new book. *(ongoing, $1 @; $2@ for the Annuals)*

And of course, the event to end all events this year is the debut of ***X-Men #1*** late in the summer--or is it more appropriate to see the *five* debuts of ***X-Men #1***? Marvel will be issuing five different editions of this landmark comic book, each with a totally different cover illustration. Chris Claremont and Jim Lee are determined to make the X-Men the hottest heroes in comics once again--and it looks like they're going to succeed! (August/September, $1.50/$3.95) Prior to the release of this landmark book, though, Marvel is presenting facsimile editions of its two earlier ***X-Men #1***s--

Green Hornet

the original Lee-Kirby issue and ***Giant Sized X-Men #1***, the book that first brought Wolverine to the X-Men. *(August, $2.95/$3.95)*

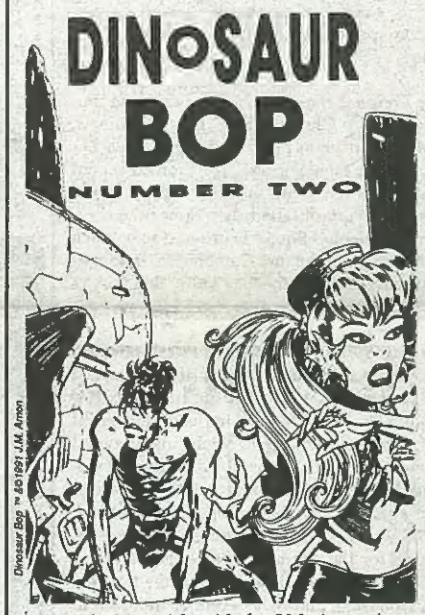
MIRAGE

Mirage has had some problems with scheduling on its ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** title--since different creative teams are working on different multi-part storylines, the numbering occasionally gets out of order--but they're optimistic that the Hedden-McWeeny two-parter, "Spaced Out," scheduled for *TMNT* 38 and 39, will appear in July and August as scheduled. Raphael solos in this storyline when he's captured by two overzealous aliens who hope to conquer the earth in a single night! *(July-August, $2)*

MONSTER

Creepholes, a one-shot by Yaco, Schoultz, Villagran, and McClellan, is the story of Marjorie Wu, an oceanographer who falls through a dimensional hole. With the help of Stefano, a gypsy who has also been trapped in the dimensional gates, she hopes to find her way home--and survive the Creeps that hunt them through the dimensional maze. *(July, $2.25)*

Dinosaurs seem to be bigger than ever at Monster Comics, with several new dinosaur-related titles on line for the summer. ***Tyrannosaurus Tex*** by Van Hise and Wilber stars Tex Beaumont, a big game hunter who leads safaris on an alien world populated by dinosaurs. *(June, $2.50)* ***Dinosaur Bop*** is a bit less adventure



oriented; this quirky title by J.M. Arnon is an irreverent mix of Archie Comics, the Flintstones, and Jack Kirby-style adventure in a strange anachronistic world quite unlike anything you've ever seen before. *(June, $2.50)* ***Dinosaur Island***, by Sullivan and Thomas, covers four phases in the history of a South Pacific Island where dinosaurs haven't died off. *(July, $2.25)*

NOW

The Green Hornet is back, courtesy of the newly re-formed Now Comics. Chuck Dixon, Todd Smith, and David Mowry pit the Green Hornet and Kato against a new foe, Johnny Dollar. Mishi Kato returns as well--but this time, she's on the wrong side of the law! *(July-August, $1.95)* Now's ***Married: With Children*** returns as well, courtesy of Hansen, Richmond, and Mowry. *(July-August, $1.95)* And of course the Ghostbusters are back--and the stories are really deep this time. Of course, that's what you'd expect in ***Real Ghostbusters Super 3-D Special...*** (August, $2.95)

Before Now's problems put them temporarily out of the comics production business last year, they had quite a hit with ***The Twilight Zone***. The first issue, featuring a story by Harlan Ellison and Neal Adams, proved so hard to find that Now is reissuing it this summer in the same dual-edition format that was used last year. The prestige-format issue also features a new story by Harlan Ellison that isn't included in the standard-format edition. *(August, $2.50/$4.95)* At the same time, the ***new Twilight Zone #1***, featuring a cover by Neal Adams, will be released, kicking off the monthly run of the ongoing title. *(August, $2.50)*

PERSONALITY

Star Trek fans won't want to miss Personality's new series, ***The Original Crew***. The first issue presents an unauthorized biography of William Shatner *(June, $2.95)*, or the second issue, which presents a bio of Leonard Nimoy *(August, $2.95)*. A second series, ***The New Crew***, begins with the biography of Patrick Stewart. *(July, $2.95)*

PURE IMAGINATION

Pure Images #5 is a must-have issue for longtime comics fans: it features a comprehensive look at the career of Jack Kirby, along with a lengthy interview in which Kirby recounts his experiences during World War II. There's also a pin-up section featuring Kirby pencil art with inks by Al Gordon, Dave Gibbons, Jerry Ordway, and others. *(August, $2.50)* ***Real*** Kirby fans will want to save their nickels to spring for ***Jack Kirby's Heroes and Villains Limited Hardcover***, an expensive 236-page hardcover featuring hundreds of Kirby illos in a hardcover volume signed by Kirby himself! *(August, $150)*

REBEL STUDIOS

After nightmarish problems with other publishers, David Quinn and Tim Vigil have decided to take over the publication of their books themselves. This summer, the long-awaited ***Faust*** #7 and #8 will appear, as will several new series. Of particular interest is ***Spring-Heel Jack*** by Barbour and Tanaka, the story of a legendary Victorian killer who has apparently reappeared in modern times. *(June, $2.25 @)*

RUBBER BLANKET

Whatever happened to Dave Mazzuchelli, the artist who worked with Frank Miller on ***Daredevil*** and ***Batman: Year One***? Well, Dave is alive, well, and back in comics again with ***Rubber Blanket #1***. This new series is a surreal, somewhat existential story (a la Dave McKean's *Cages)* of characters who are slaves--and often victims--of their own memories and thoughts. Look for this to be a summertime event, since Mazzuchelli intends to publish only one 48-page issue per year... *(June, $5.75)*

SUPERSTAR

1991 seems to be a big year for sports comics; Marvel is debuting their own NFL Superpro, while Superstar Comics is creating an entire

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CSN SUMMER PREVIEW

line of Sports Fantasy books. ***The Screamer Brothers*** are sports superstars who have been designed for athletic achievement by their sports medicine father. The brothers join up with F.A.S.T., the Federated Association of Sports Teams, a multi-sport organization. Later this summer, ***The Screamer Bros. Vol. 2 #1*** features more colorful adventures of the sports-star brothers–in fact, the adventures are published in full color... *(August, $1.95)*

Tundra

Bratpack reaches its finale this June with the release of ***Bratpack #5***, in which we find out which heroes and their teen assistants will survive–but its' really just the ending of the first part of the saga, since Rick Veitch will follow it up with the next chapter of his King Hell Heroica Cycle, ***Trueman: The Maximortal***. *($2.95)*

Violent Cases ™ &©1991 Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean

For the first time ever, Neil Gaiman and Dave McKean's ***Violent Cases*** gets an American edition–and Tundra is doing it right, in full color (the only edition previously imported into the US was black-and-white). This graphic novel was the work that first brought Gaiman and McKean to the attention of comics fans everywhere; it's a story of gangsters and memories that has been widely praised since its initial release. *(July, $9.95)* Fans can also pick up one of the limited run of Dave McKean-illustrated ***Violent Cases*** posters, done to commemorate the first American edition of the book. *(August, $5.95)*

The Tundra Sketchbook Series Volume Four spotlights the art of Rick Bryant, well known as an inker but not as well known as an illustrator in his own right; as this volume shows, though, he should be! *(August, $3.95)*

Steve Bissette' art is a highlight of ***The Year in Fear 1991-92 16-Month Calendar***, but the illos aren't the *only* plus this calendar has going for it: it also features oodloes of horror milestones in its calendar listings. *(June, $14.95)*

Valiant

Magnus, Robot Fighter continues his battle with the evil robots who are seeking to wipe out North Am's human population–but as it turns out, Magnus isn't the only Robot Fighter. Rai, a Japanese robot fighter, debuts in ***Magnus, Robot Fighter #5*** before moving on to his own book later this year. *(June-August, $1.75)*

Valiant's second superhero title debuts this summer: ***Solar, Man of the Atom*** presents the revitalized atomic-powered hero in a story by Jim Shooter, Don Perlin, and Bob Layton. Each issue will also feature four pages of Barry Windsor-Smith's origin of Dr. Solar; the back side of each four-page foldout origin section will contain one eighth of a Barry Windsor-Smith poster that will also be the surprise final panel of Solar's origin! *(June-August, $1.75)*

Viz

Viz adds a new color title to its line with ***Silent Mobius***, Kia Asamiya's story of an elite, all-woman police strike force, the Abnormal Mystery Police, created to battle supernatural threats to 21st Century Tokyo. *(June-August, $4.95)*

White Wolf

White Wolf's game ***Ars Magica*** becomes White Wolf's comic ***Ars Magica*** this summer. Each bi-monthly issue features characters and concepts featured in the ***Ars Magica*** game, with a strong emphasis on believable characters in the fantastic ***Ars Magica*** realm. *(June-August, $2.75)*

Solar ™ &©1991 Western Publishing

Zen

Zen Intergalactic Ninja Volume 3 #1 is a great starting point for readers who haven't been following Zen's story from the beginning. This new series introduces reader to Zen, offering a definitive retelling of his origin to pave the way for new stories slated for later in the summer–stories illustrated by the classic team of Ross Andru and Mike Esposito! *(June, $2.25)*

Silent Möbius ™ &©1991 Viz

Comics-Related Books

Lotsa great paperback and hardcover releases are on line for this summer, including the new Calvin & Hobbes collection ***Scientific Progress Goes "Boink"*** *(August, $7.95)*; ***Marvel: Five Fabulous Decades of the World's Greatest Comics*** by Les Daniels, the long-awaited comprehensive history of Marvel Comics that's been literally years in the making *(July, $45)*; ***Completely Mad: A History of the Comic Book and Magazine*** by Maria Reidelbach, offering an illustration-filled history of William S. Gaines' ***Mad*** *(August, $39.95)*; and Abbeville Press's ***Archie: His First 50 Years***, a hardcover look at the half-century celebration of the world's most popular teen-ager *(August, $29.95)*.

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